

REMARKS



Claims 1 - 19 and 22 - 25 are in this application and are presented for consideration. Claim 1 has been amended, claims 20 and 21 have been cancelled and new claims 24 and 25 have been added.

The communication from the Examiner dated August 22, 1997 states that the elected Species I (Figures 2 and 3) does not have the knife edge protrusion in the recess as stated in independent claim 1.

Applicant notes that Figure 2 shows two contact members 24 with end portions 34 that have cutting edges 46. This is more clearly shown in Figure 3. The end portion 34 of one contact member 24 is the electrical contact means in claim 1, and the cutting edge 46 of the other contact member 24 falls within the definition of the knife edge protrusion means set forth in claim 1. Applicant has amended claim 1 to remove the limitation that the knife edge protrusions are formed integrally with the body. Therefore claim 1 as amended, falls within the scope of Species I (Figures 2 and 3).

At this time Applicant again wishes to state that Applicant elects Species I, described by Figures 2 and 3, for initial examination. Claims 1 - 5, 7, 8, 10 - 14 and 25 are readable thereon. Claims 1 - 5, 7 and 11 - 13 are generic as they read on all species presented.

Applicant thanks the Examiner for the careful reading of the claims and for pointing out discrepancies.



The Examiner has also stated that independent claim 22 is directed to Species V (Figure 11) which is a non-elected species. Applicant notes that in the Response of July 16, 1997 Applicant did not indicate that claim 22 was elected or generic.

If the Examiner has any comments or suggestions which would further favorable prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicant's representative by telephone to discuss possible changes.

Favorable action on the merits of this application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted
for Applicant,

By:


John James McGlew
Registration No. 31,903
McGLEW AND TUTTLE

and,

By:


Theobald Dengler
Registration No. 34,575
McGLEW AND TUTTLE

JJM/TD:tm
52036.13

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SCARBOROUGH STATION
SCARBOROUGH, NEW YORK 10510-0827
(914) 941-5775

SHOULD ANY OTHER FEE BE REQUIRED, THE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE IS HEREBY REQUESTED TO CHARGE SUCH FEE TO OUR DEPOSIT ACCOUNT 13-0410.

HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THIS CORRESPONDENCE IS BEING DEPOSITED WITH THE UNITED STATES POSTAL SERVICE AS EXPRESS MAIL IN AN ENVELOPE ADDRESSED TO: COMMISSIONER OF PATENTS AND TRADEMARKS, WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231, NO.: EM499228429US

McGLEY AND TUTTLE
SCARBOROUGH STATION, SCARBOROUGH, NY 10510-0827

BY: Toniann Fonte DATE: September 19, 1997